United Nations A/69/882

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 April 2015

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 129
Seventieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War

Letter dated 21 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On behalf of Kazakhstan, which is currently chairing the Commonwealth of Independent States, I have the honour to transmit the address of the Council of the Heads of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States to the peoples of the Commonwealth and to the world public on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet People in the Great Patriotic War in 1941-1945 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 129, before 9 May 2015.

(*Signed*) Kairat **Abdrakhmanov**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-06459 (E) 290415 290415

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 21 April 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

Address by the Heads of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States to the peoples of the States members of the Commonwealth and the international community on the occasion of the seventieth anniversary of the Victory of the Soviet People in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945

Seven decades separate us from the historic victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945. For the peoples of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, 9 May 1945 is a sacred day and one of the most important and respected dates. That day will forever remain a symbol of selflessness and heroism in the defence of our peoples' freedom and independence and of the delivery of humanity from the threat of fascist enslavement.

During the dark years of the war, on the battlefields and on the home front, our peoples' unbreakable friendship and lofty patriotism were displayed clearly as they fought as one towards a shared victory. Today, the great legacy of the victory provides the post-war generations with important spiritual inspiration and moral guidance for the creation of a just and safe world.

We are eternally indebted to those who fell in the war and we bow our heads before the graves of those who died on the battlefields, of those who were tormented in concentration camps and fascist torture chambers and of those who lost their lives due to famine and hardships. We therefore urge that the memory of those who died in the fight against fascism should be held sacred; that constant care should be taken to duly preserve and maintain military grave sites, memorial complexes, monuments and obelisks, as well as the graves of partisans, underground fighters and prisoners of fascist camps; and that the search should continue for the remains of soldiers and civilians who fell during the Great Patriotic War.

We salute the surviving front-line warriors for their heroism on the battlefields and the workers on the home front for their feats of labour during the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945 and as the national economy recovered after the war. It is our duty to continue to care for them in every way.

We greatly appreciate the courage of the peoples of Europe and across the world who, alongside us, opposed Nazism, and we remember the contribution and help of our allies in the anti-Hitler coalition in the achievement of our common victory.

We note, with growing concern, the cynical attempts to forget the lessons of that war, to make perverted moral and legal assessments of its outcome, to establish equivalence of rights between victims and executioners, to sully the glorious memory of the fallen, to rehabilitate Nazi criminals and collaborators and to rekindle theories of racial and national supremacy.

We call on all countries and peoples of the world firmly to oppose efforts to glorify the Nazi movement, revitalize fascist ideology, and spread xenophobia and racism.

In that war, the peoples of our countries bore the largest human and economic losses. We call for the younger generation to be instilled with a sense of pride in the great feat accomplished by our peoples in the fight against fascism.

We, the Heads of the States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States, reaffirming our commitment to the universally recognized principles and norms of international law, the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the Helsinki Final Act, call for active cooperation to strengthen security and stability in the world, greater efforts to combat international terrorism and extremism, the peaceful political settlement of existing conflicts and the prevention of potential conflicts.

The States members of the Commonwealth of Independent States will continue to do all they can to strengthen all-round cooperation with the international community in order to ensure sustainable global development and the progress of all States.